

BASARA

TM



Story and Art by **Yumi Tamura**

Vol. 24



shōjo

BASARA™

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Story and Art by
Yumi Tamura

Basara

Vol. #24

Shôjo Edition

Story and Art by

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PARENTAL ADVISORY

BASARA is rated 1+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. Contains realistic violence.



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After a global apocalypse, Japan passed into the hands of tyrannical kings. At the birth of a rebel chieftain's twins, the blind prophet Nagi predicted, "This is a child of destiny, one who will grow to lead the people and be the light in the sky of our nation's future." But Tatara, the "Boy of Destiny," was killed by the Red King, one of the four sons of King Ukon XV. Tatara's twin sister, Sarasa, took up his name and his mission, vowing to lead Japan to freedom and peace.

During her travels, Sarasa fell in love with a young man named Shuri, not knowing that he was the Red King. On the battlefield, the two finally learned one another's identities. After intense grief and soul-searching, both returned to their positions—rebel and king—convinced that they were destined to be enemies.

Now, as her army claims victory on the battlefield, Sarasa penetrates King Ukon's palace to face the remnants of the royal family. Asagi, the Blue King, has betrayed Sarasa to claim the throne, while King Ukon himself lurks elsewhere in the palace. Shuri follows Sarasa, even though he has just lost an arm in battle and is bleeding badly. In the corridors of power, their bond will be tested again...



Sarasa

When Sarasa and her twin brother Tatara were born, a prophecy was made: "This is a child of destiny..." The people of Byakko Village assumed Tatara was the "Boy of

Destiny," and Sarasa grew up in his shadow. When the Red King's forces killed Tatara, Sarasa took up her brother's name and fought in his guise, not realizing that she was the real Child of Destiny. Sarasa was horrified by the discovery that her lover, Shuri, was also her most hated enemy, the Red King.



Ageha

Capable of staying the hand of a king and arranging for 1,000 head of cattle on short notice, this mysterious desert nomad seems to be extremely informed and influential. Ageha

lost his left eye when the Red King blinded it as payment for rescuing the 12-year-old Sarasa. Now he is Sarasa's slightly mercenary ally. Ageha uses his owl companion, Kagero, to carry messages to his contacts.



The Red King

Once in charge of Midwestern Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu, he is the youngest of King Ukon's four sons. Only a privileged few call him by his name, Shuri. After

being ousted from his throne, he succeeded in reclaiming his power. He is now preparing to succeed his father as King of Japan. Destroying the rebel leader Tatara was one of his obsessions, and the discovery that Tatara was really Sarasa devastated him.



Asagi

His pale skin and refined demeanor belie his ruthlessness and deadly skills. Asagi is the Blue King, son of King Ukon and brother of Shuri, but for most of his life he

posed as a bodyguard to the false Blue King. He is allied with Sarasa, but he helps the rebels only out of personal curiosity and to further his own goals.

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FINAL TALE: SIENNA RESOLUTION



SARASA!

YOU WON'T
GO WITHOUT
ME!



TINY TAM-TAM TIME ①

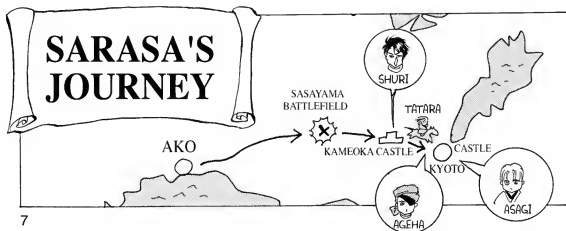
Hello! BASARA is getting pretty close to the end! Thanks for all your support!



The theme for this cover is "underground." The weird statues are the animals of the zodiac that Hagiwara left as a code.

TAMU.

SARASA'S JOURNEY





I SENT
KAGERO TO
DELIVER THE
MESSAGE...

HAGIWARA MAY
HAVE HIDDEN A
TRAP
UNDERNEATH
THE CASTLE!

IS SHE
GOING TO
THE
CASTLE?

TATARA,
WAIT!

THEY
MUSTVE
JUST
MISSED
EACH
OTHER!

DAMN!

KAMEOKA--TATARA'S CAMP



SHURI!

DON'T
MOVE!

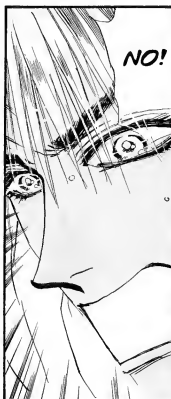
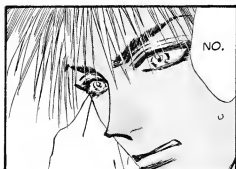


I'M GOING
INTO THE
CASTLE
DUN-
GEONS!

COME
WITH
ME.

SHOW
ME
THE
WAY.

HUH?



I'M SHINBASHI'S DAD,
KAGERO.
I CAN'T FIND TATARA.

TO
TATA-
ra...

Hagimura may have
laid a trap under
the castle.

SHIN-
BASHI?

NO...

SSSS

KEEP
AWAY.

I'LL
LIVE.

A LITTLE
BLOOD ISN'T
WHAT KILLS A
MAN.

DON'T
STOP
ME.

I HAVE
TO GO!

SHURI!



IF I
CAN'T
GO
NOW...

...I MIGHT
AS WELL
BE DEAD!

...UNABLE
TO DO
ANYTHING...
THAT IS
WHAT KILLS
ME!



HAVING
TO SIT
HERE...



I
CAN'T
DRAW
A
BOW!

I
WANT TO
HELP HER
AND I
CAN'T!





ASAGI'S
THERE...

...IN THE
CASTLE
KEEP.



KTA KTA

WHO GOES
THERE?



WHOA!

KTA



THIS
PLACE...

...IS AN
EMPTY
RUIN.

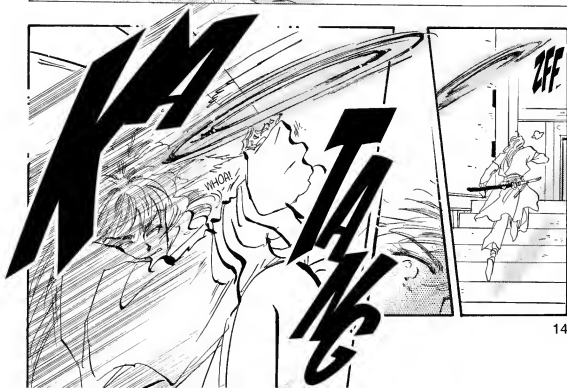


DID THEY
ALL
FLEE?

DID THEY
ABANDON
THEIR KING?



THERE
AREN'T
MANY
GUARDS.





YOU MARCHED
IN HERE
ALONE? WE
HEARD YOU
WERE
RECKLESS...

...AND IT
SEEMS TO
BE TRUE.

SHK



WE
ARE
RAN
AND
UME...

OF THE
FOUR
VIR-
TUES.

WE SHALL
TAKE YOU
ON.

WY OOSH





THIS
WAY!
HURRY!

WASABI,
POWDER, AND
RED AND
BLACK PEPPER!



KIKU!



SHOOM

PFFTH!

IT'S IN
MY EYES!

WHAT'S
THIS?
FLOUR?

NO, IT STINGS!



KIKU!



I
FIGURED...

...I COULD DO
MORE ON THIS
END!



TM
TM

SORRY I
TOOK
OFF.

MM-
HMM.

TM
TM
TM



LEAVE THEM
TO ME!

NOW GO,
SARASA!

RIGHT
HERE.
GOOD.

TM
TM
TM

KIKU-
NE!







SEE?

STEEL
PLATES.

YOU CAN'T USE
YOUR
WEAPONS IN
HERE.

KAKAKA



HUH?



WOMEN
SHOULD KNOW
THEIR PLACE.

FOOL. YOU
CAN'T
MANEUVER,
EITHER.

HMPH.



I
HATED
BEING A
GIRL.

I WISHED I'D
BEEN BORN
A MAN.



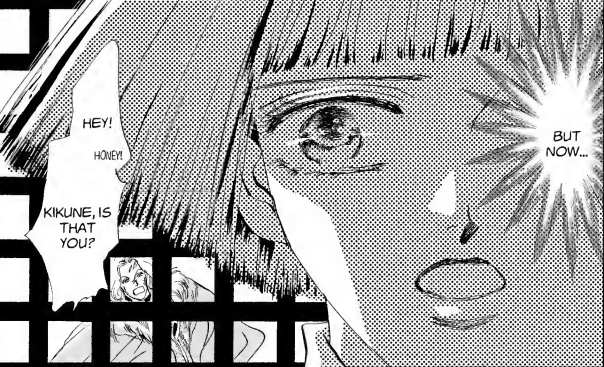
WHY IS
SHE
ONE OF
US?

SHE CAN'T
KEEP UP
ANYWAY!



WELL,
EXCUSE
ME...

...FOR
BEING A
WOMAN.



HEY!

HONEY!

KIKUNE, IS
THAT
YOU?

BUT
NOW...



ARE THEY
THREATENING
YOU?

WHO
ARE
THOSE
GUYS?

WHAT ARE
YOU
DOING?

I SAW TATARA
GOING BY AND
RAN AFTER
HER.



...I'M GLAD I
WAS BORN
AS A GIRL.

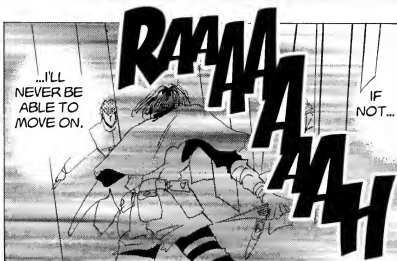
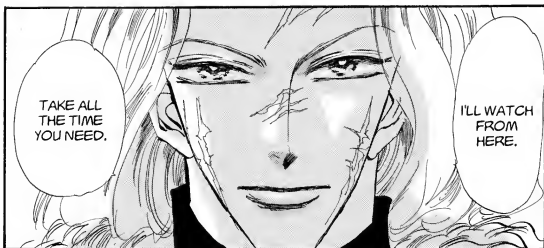
NOW...



I'LL GET RID
OF THEM!

TAKKA

OPEN
UP!







YEAH.



I THINK I
KNOW
NOW...



RUN
AWAY.

THE
CASTLE
WILL
FALL.

FLEE.

WHAT?

WHL

TK

11

TK

VERTICAL
TAM-TAM TIME: ①

PROFILE OF KING UKON: ①



WHAT?
YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT?

...AND
BE-
CAME
KING...

ONCE I
KILLED MY
BROTHERS
...

WHY?

...EVERY-
THING WAS
SUPPOSED
TO BE
MINE.



...DID I END UP
LOSING
EVERYTHING?

SO
HOW...



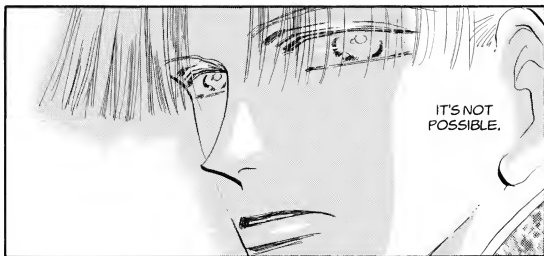
YOU...

...TOOK YOUR
HAPPINESS
FOR
GRANTED,
FATHER.



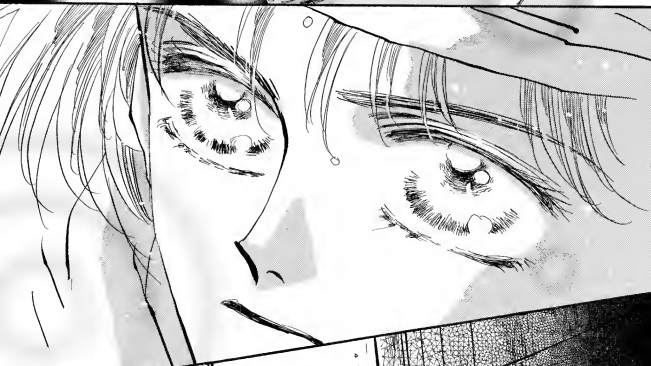
HAVING
**EVERY-
THING** IS
THE SAME
AS HAVING
NOTHING.





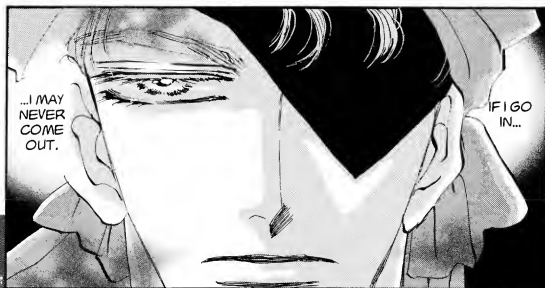


...TO SEE
ME...



SLAM





...I MAY
NEVER
COME
OUT.

IF I GO
IN...



I THINK...

HUH?

THIS
WILL
DO,
THANKS.

YOU'LL
HAVE
OTHER
THINGS
TO DO IN
THE
FUTURE.

ONE
DAY...

AH

...WORTH
DYING
FOR.

...YOU
WILL
MEET A
WOMAN
...

...TO BE
HERE, AT
THIS
MOMENT.

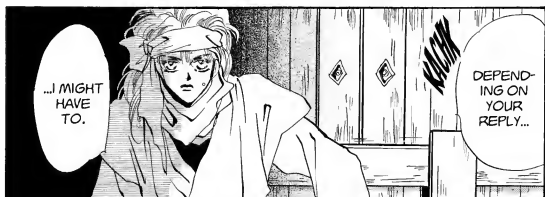
...I WAS
GIVEN
LIFE...



DON'T
YOU
WANT...

A
FUTURE,
TOO?









I WAS
THE
ONLY
ONE
WHO
COULD
DO THIS.

WHERE?



BUT...

HOME?

...IT HAD
MEANING
FOR ME.



COME
HOME.



THERE'S
NO
MEANING
IN BEING
HERE.

LET'S
GO,
ASAGI.



YOU
ALL
RIGHT?
SHOULD
WE
REST?

THE RED
KING
COULDN'T
DO IT.



BUT...

...I
HAVEN'T
TALKED
THINGS
OUT...

...WITH
SARASA
YET.



I HATE
BEING A
BURDEN.



ARE
YOU
MOCK-
ING
ME?

YEAH,
YEAH.

IT'S
MEANT
AS A
COMPLI-
MENT.

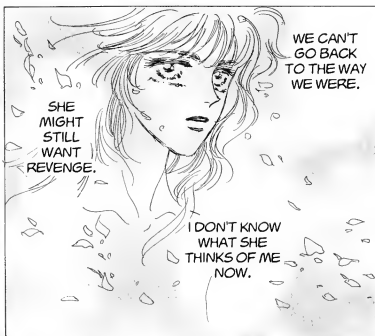
YOU'RE A
NICE
GUY.

YOUR
LEG IS
HURT,
TOO.



I...

I NEED
TO TALK
TO HER.



WE CAN'T
GO BACK
TO THE WAY
WE WERE.

SHE
MIGHT
STILL
WANT
REVENGE.

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT SHE
THINKS OF ME
NOW.



MOVE
FASTER!

ARGH! COME ON,
LEGS!



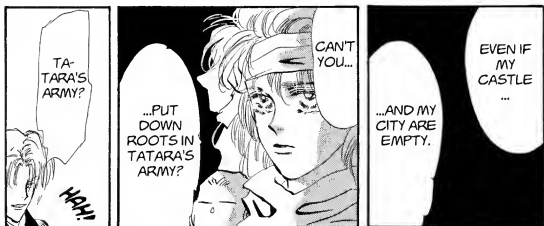
I
WON'T
...

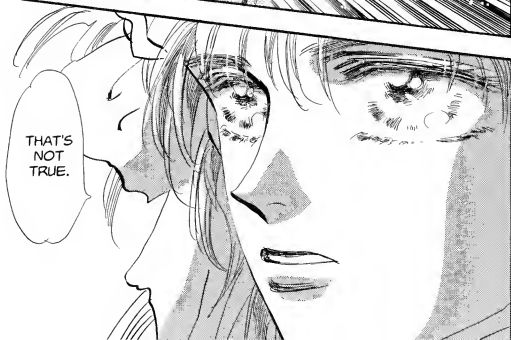
...PRAY TO
GOD YET.

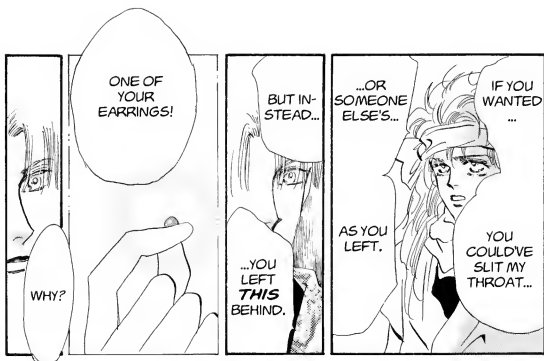


I...

NEVER
PUT DOWN
ROOTS
ANY-
WHERE.

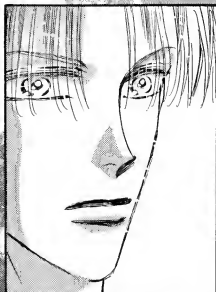








THAT'S
JUST...



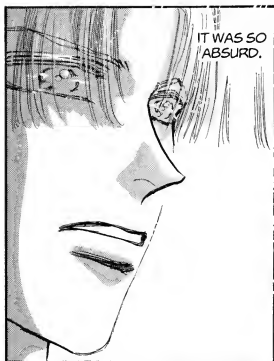
SO...



TATARA...

WON'T
CHOOSE
SHURI.

TATARA...



IT WAS SO
ABSURD.



AND I
LAUGHED...

...AT
HOW
STUPID
IT WAS.



IN
KUMANO...

...YOU LEAPT
INTO THE
FLAMES TO
SAVE CHACHA
AND ZAKI.



STAY
OUT!

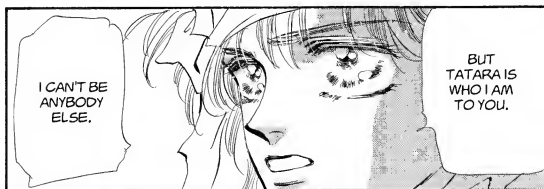
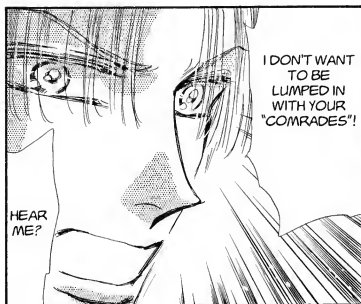
DONT
COME
IN!

RED
KING!



BAM BAM SARASA!

SHURI?





NOT
SHURI'S...
BE
MINE.

TATARA.

BE MINE.

I'M NOT
LEAVING.



TATARA
WOULD GO...

ALL THE WAY TO
THE DEPTHS OF
HELL WITH YOU.

YOU
ASKED
ME...

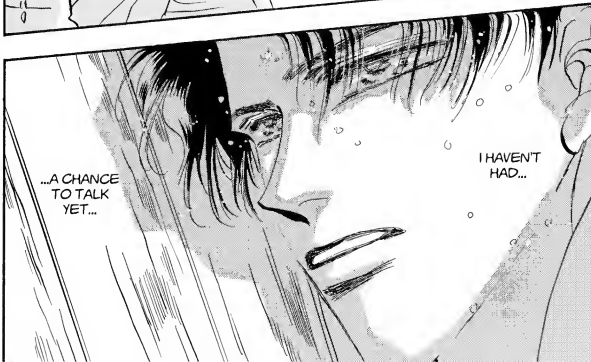
TO GO
WITH YOU.

EVEN IF WE MUST DIE AT
EACH OTHER'S SWORDS.



...A CHANCE
TO TALK
YET...

I HAVEN'T
HAD...



FINAL TALE: SLATE SAME SPIRIT

...TAKE HIM
BACK WITH ME...

I
MUST...



SHURI,
STAND
BACK!

FINAL TALE: SLATE SAME SPIRIT



SARASA!



TINY TAM-TAM TIME ②

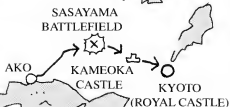
Have you had a look at the second BASARA artbook, "Earth"?
It's the result of a lot of hard work from a lot of people! ♪
(Lots of writing, gathering data, and proofing! Thanks, editors
and designers!)

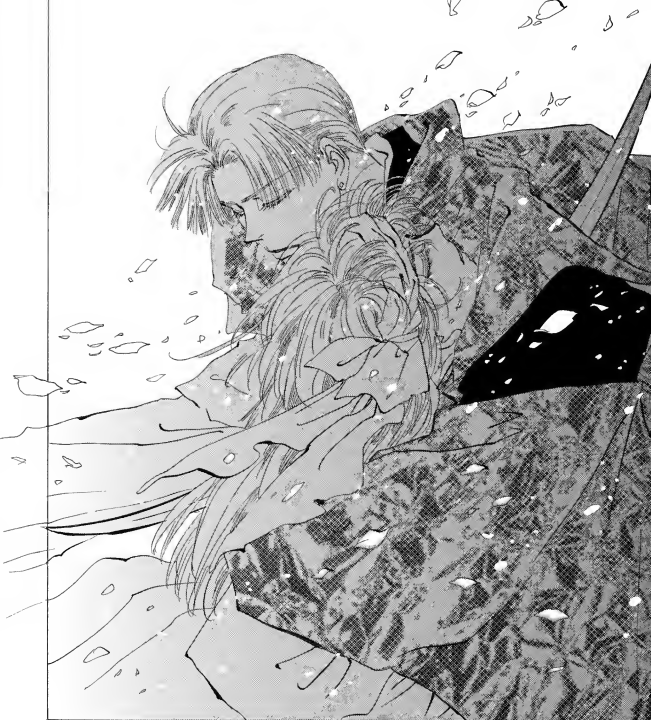
Please peruse it if you get a chance. And then you can play
with the deck of cards and the board game! !!!!!

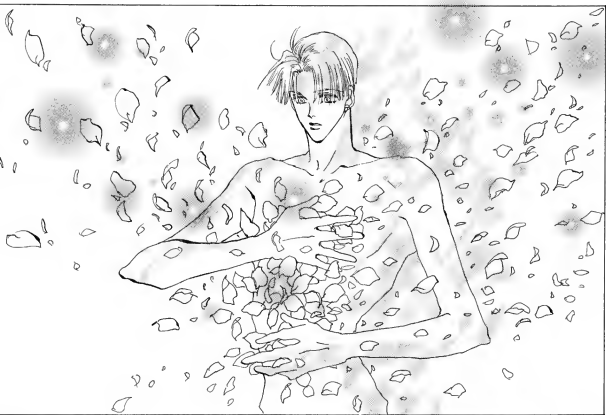


7/76

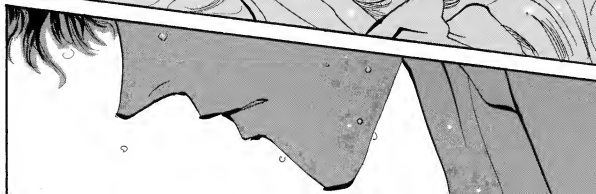
SARASA'S JOURNEY



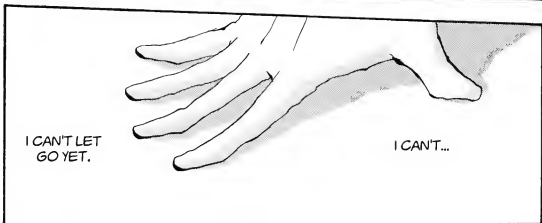
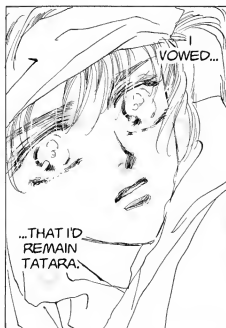




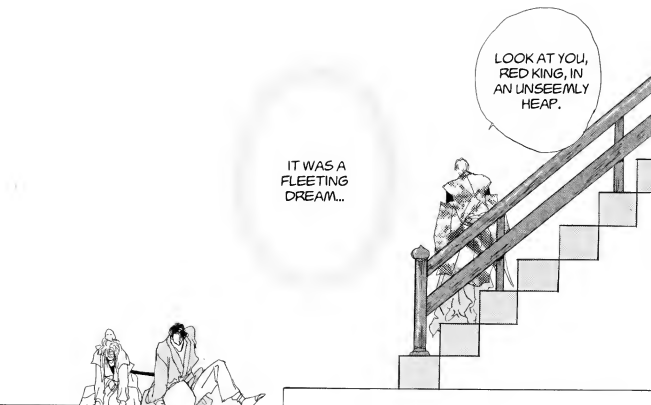






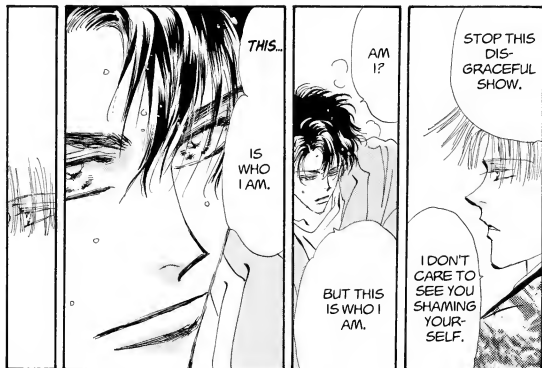






IT WAS A
FLEETING
DREAM...

LOOK AT YOU,
RED KING, IN
AN UNSEEMLY
HEAP.



THIS...

IS
WHO
I AM.

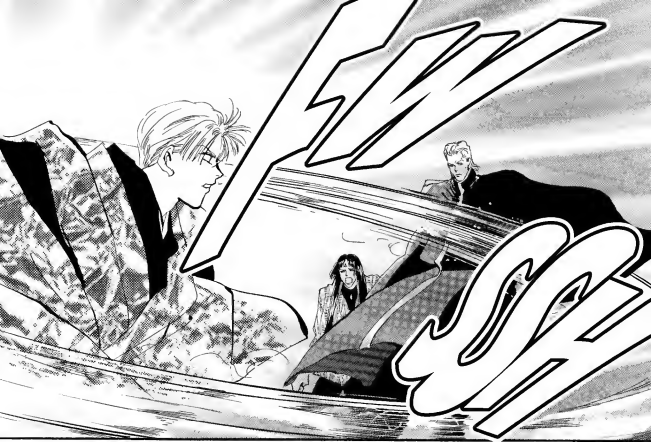
AM
I?

BUT THIS
IS WHO I
AM.

STOP THIS
DIS-
GRACEFUL
SHOW.

I DON'T
CARE TO
SEE YOU
SHAMING
YOUR-
SELF.







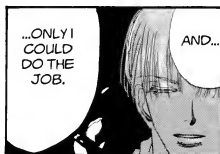


DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?
WE HAVE TO GO
DOWN IN
FLAMES.

THE ROYAL
FAMILY HAS
TO BE...

A HATED
REGIME...

...TO THE
BITTER END.



...ONLY I
COULD
DO THE
JOB.

AND...



...WHAT
I'VE
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO DO.

THIS
IS...



ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
SHURI?



I'M...

NOT
DOING
IT FOR
TATARA.

AND
GINKO,
TOO.



I WANTED TO
DO THIS FOR
MYSELF.

NO.



...COME
BACK
WITH
ME.

I THOUGHT I
HAD TO
MAKE HIM...



THINK
WHAT
YOU
WILL.



SO I
MAY
AS-
SUME...

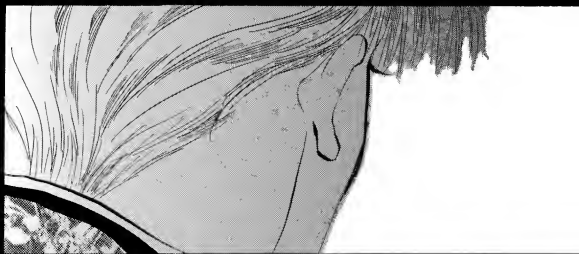
YOU
ARE
PART...

...OF
TATA-
RA'S
ARMY?



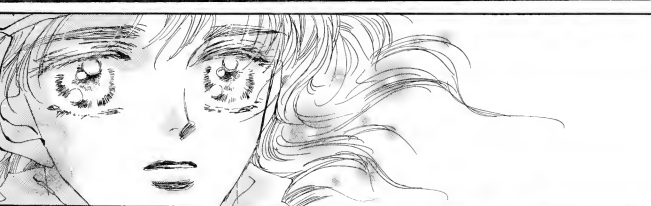
...BUT I
DIDN'T.

I KEPT
SAYING I
TRUSTED
HIM...



...WHEN I DIDN'T
HAVE TO
WORRY AT
ALL...

I RUSHED
OVER
HERE...





...ASAGI.

I'LL LEAVE
YOU IN
CHARGE
HERE...



YOU'RE
IN
CHARGE.



WE'LL ALL
BE
WAITING
FOR YOU.

BE SURE
TO COME
BACK.



ASA-
GI?

I'LL
MEET
YOU
DOWN-
STAIRS.

TP



I'M GOING
TO SEE
KING
UKON.

THEN
WE'LL
LET
THINGS
END.



YEAH,
RIGHT.

NAKI-
JIN.

LET HIM
REST
SOME-
WHERE
SAFE.

DON'T
LET
HIM
MOVE.



ONE
PHRASE...

...SURE.



YOU'RE IN
CHARGE.





THAT'S
THE
GREAT-
EST
TRUST...

...SHE
COULD
PLACE
HERE
AND
NOW.

"YOU'RE IN
CHARGE."



THAT
ONE
PHRASE
COULD
MEAN
SO
MUCH.



IT'S NOT
SOME-
THING I
COULD
SAY SO
EASILY.



LIAR.

YOU'VE
SAID IT,
TOO.



...YOU'VE
PLACED YOUR
TRUST IN
MANY.

ALL
THROUGH
YOUR
LIFE...



YOU'RE
SO
STUPID,
RED
KING.



AND
YOU
...

WHY WOULD YOU
EVER CONSPIRE
WITH HAGIWARA?
WHAT CAME
OVER YOU?



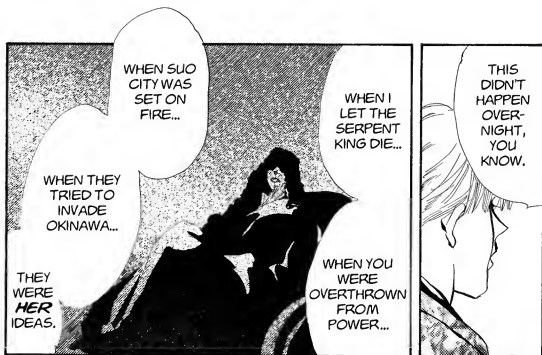
SHU-
RI.

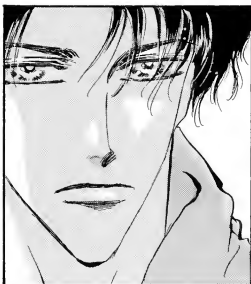
I THOUGHT
YOU'D BE
SMARTER
THAN THIS.



MANY...

GINKO.



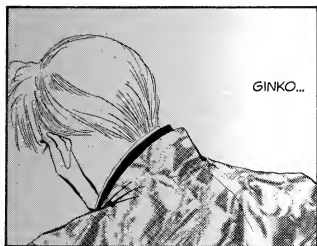
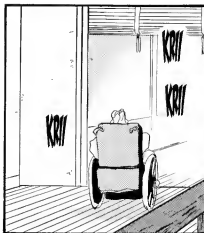


IF SHE'S
LEFT
ON HER
OWN.







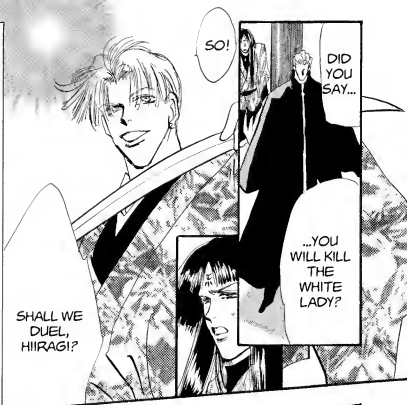


VERTICAL
TAM-TAM TIME: ②

PROFILE OF KING UKON: 2



YOU REALLY DON'T WANT
TO KNOW?







SHURI'S
FATHER
...



YOU
MUST
BE
TATA-
RA.

I
COMMEND
YOU FOR
GETTING
THIS FAR.

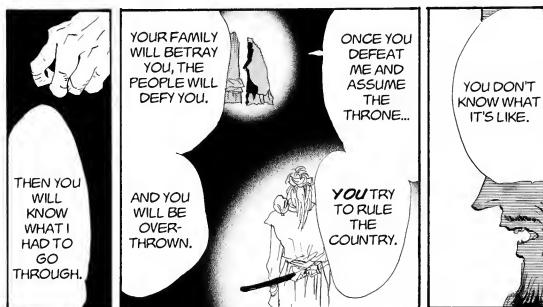
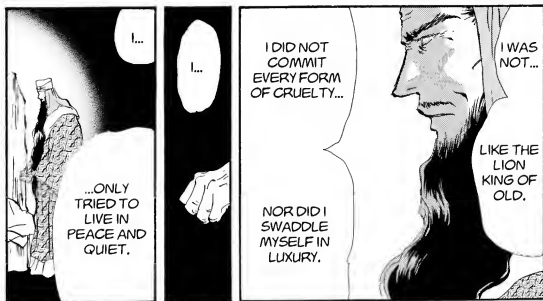


THIS IS
THE
FIRST
TIME...

...I'VE
SEEN
HIM UP
CLOSE.



ARE
YOU
KING
UKON?





TATA-
RA.

WILL YOU
BE MY
SECOND
?



I AM
READY.

I AM THE
LAST OF A
LINE OF
FIFTEEN
KINGS,
AFTER ALL.



WILL
YOU DIE
BY
YOUR
OWN
HAND?

OR WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
BE BROUGHT
FORTH
BEFORE
EVERYONE?



SARASA!

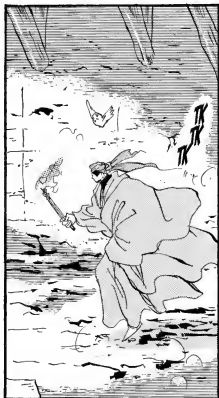
IT COULD
BE A
TRAP!

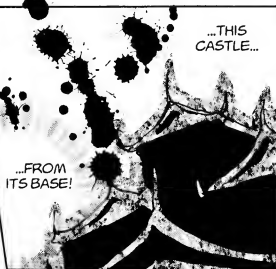
DON'T
GO
NEAR
HIM!



THIS
WILL BE
THE
END...









IT'S
SINKING!



SHINK

WHAT'S
THIS?



...THE WHOLE
CASTLE WILL
COLLAPSE.

THE
CASTLE'S
MAIN PILLAR.

IF THIS TIPS
OVER...







THIS IS
THE
MOMENT
OF
TRUTH.

NOW
THEN...

AGEHA.



I'M NOT
AFRAID.

I KNOW
OTHERS...

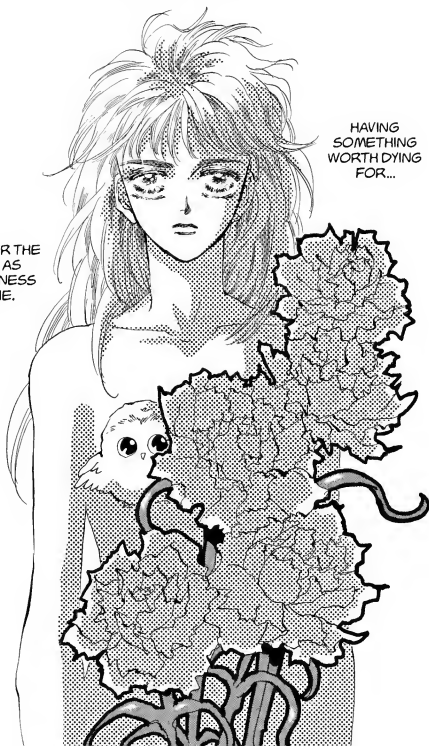
...WITH THE SAME
SPIRIT.



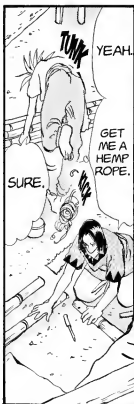
FINAL TALE: AQUAMARINE READINESS

...IS NEVER THE
SAME AS
WILLINGNESS
TO DIE.

HAVING
SOMETHING
WORTH DYING
FOR...







Tiny Tam-Tam Time ③

I bought a pedometer. I wear it every day and have fun with it. But I get the feeling it exaggerates the actual number of steps...Still, it's interesting.



On a sedentary day, I really don't move around much at all. "It made me feel guilty, so...

TAMU

SARASA'S JOURNEY

SASAYAMA BATTLEFIELD

KAMEOKA CASTLE

KYOTO

ROYAL CASTLE

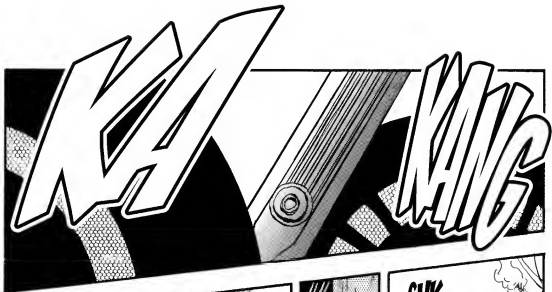
TATARA & SHIRAI

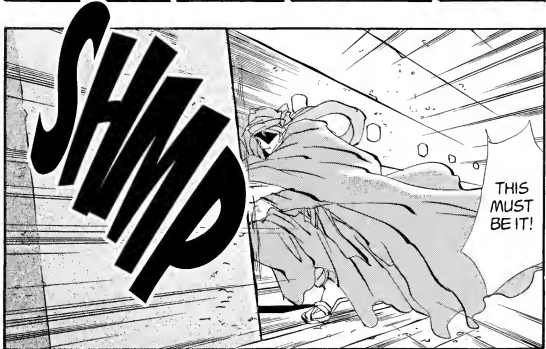
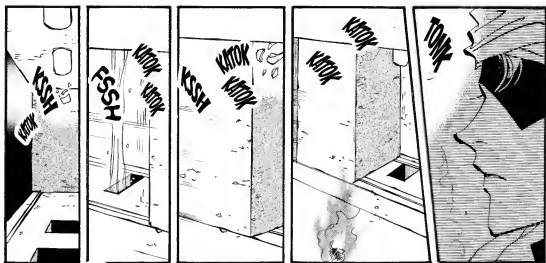
ASAGI

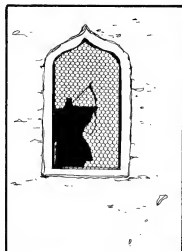
KOHANE & TCHIMATSU

AGEHA









Vertical

Tam-Tam Time: ③

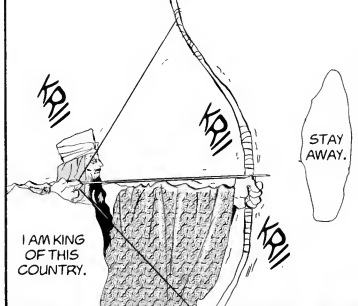
Profile of King Ukon: ③

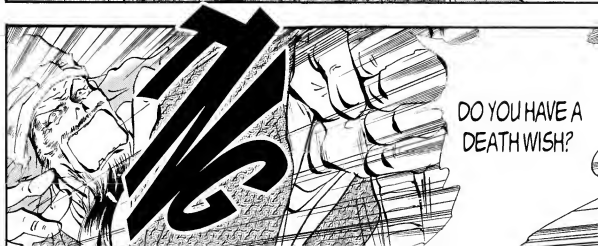


How about when I'm young?

BETTER?

What, that's all I
get?







BUT...

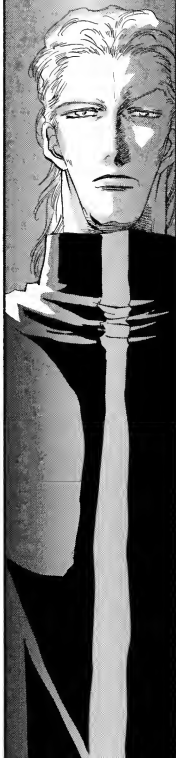
...EVEN IF I
ONLY HAVE
SKILL...

THE
LOSS OF
AN ARM
MAY NOT
BE GOOD
ENOUGH
...

...TO GIVE
ME A
FIGHTING
CHANCE.

...I HAVE A
FEELING I
CAN'T LOSE
RIGHT NOW.

HIIRAGI.



ONLY
SKILL?

KEEP OUT
OF IT,
MURATAKE!

LORD
ASAGI
!

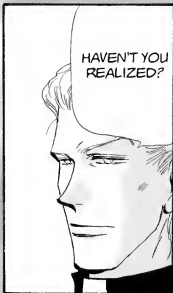


WHAT
ABOUT
THIS
AURA...

...REPLETE
WITH SUCH
CONFIDENCE?



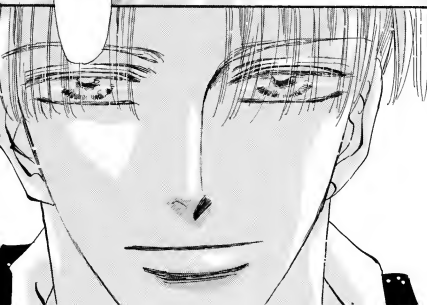
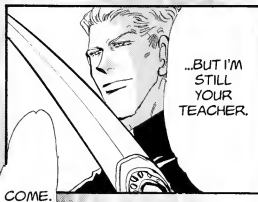
HAVEN'T YOU
REALIZED?



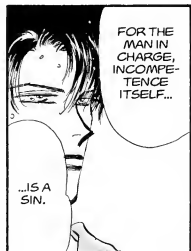
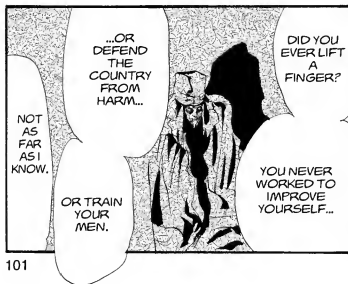
WHAT IS THIS
SPIRIT AND
STRENGTH...

...THAT
STANDS
BEFORE ME
NOW?











EVERY-
ONE
WORKED
SO
HARD.

WE FOUGHT
TO LIVE,
THROUGH
LOSS AND
DEATH
BEYOND
RECKONING.



IT'S FRUS-
TRATING
TO THINK...

YOU WERE
THE ONE
WE
FOUGHT
TO
REACH...

...ALL
THIS
TIME.



THAT
BOW...

REFLECTS
WHO YOU
ARE NOW.

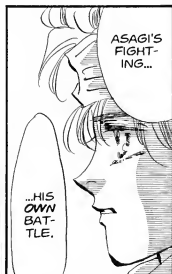


COULD YOU
SAY THE
SAME OF
YOUR LIFE?



TO
MOVE
ON...

...AND
OVER-
COME
HIS
PAST.



ASAGI'S
FIGHT-
ING...

...HIS
OWN
BAT-
TLE.



GINKO!

GET
ASAGI!

A...
ASAGI.

WHERE
IS
ASAGI?



DID YOU
FOLLOW
YOUR
HEART?



DID YOU
STRUGGLE?



DID YOU
FIGHT?



DID YOU
MAKE ANY
SUCH
EFFORT...

...IN
YOUR
LIFE?
EVER?



DID YOU
LIVE A
LIFE YOU
COULD
BE
PROUD
OF?

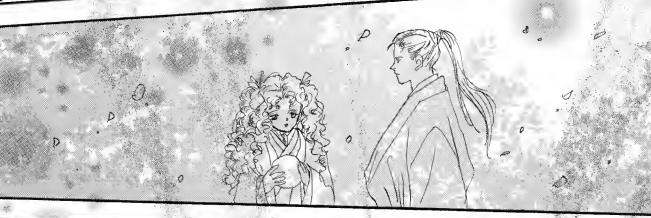


WELL,
KING
UKON?

WHAT DID
YOU DO
WITH
YOUR
LIFE?

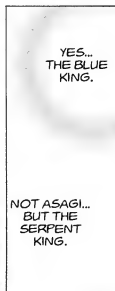






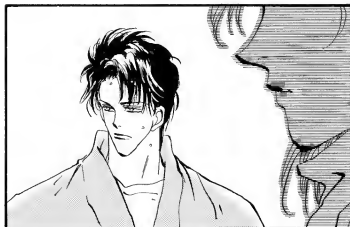
HIRAGI...





GO.

I FEEL
THE
SAME
WAY
NOW.



...IF YOU TRULY
BELIEVE YOU'LL BE
WELCOMED
SOMEWHERE DOWN
THE ROAD...

IF YOU
THINK YOU
CAN FLEE
AND
SURVIVE...



NO!

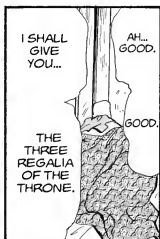


I SHALL
GIVE
YOU...

AH...
GOOD.

THE
THREE
REGALIA
OF THE
THRONE.

GOOD.



I'LL TAKE
CARE OF
THE
REST.

...THEN
GO.





...AS THE
LAST KING!

THEN YOU
WILL BE
CON-
DEMNED...



HE'S
JUST AN
OLD
MAN.

LET
HIM
GO.



I DON'T
CARE
ABOUT
HIM!

I DON'T CARE IF
HE LIVES OR
DIES IN A
DITCH...



FACE
YOUR
PEOPLE
ONE
LAST
TIME!

ARGH!

YOU HAVE
TO TAKE
RESPO-
NSI-
BILITY...



IF THE
CROWD
DEMANDS AN
EXECUTION...



GRP

NO,
YOU
CAN'T
RUN!

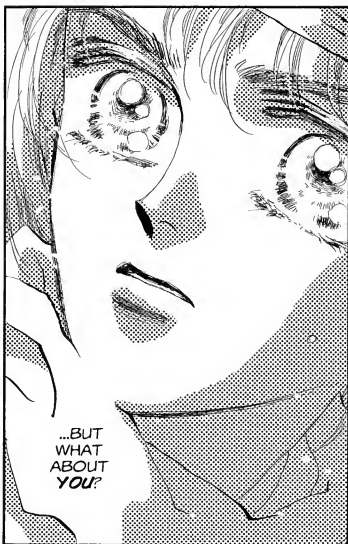


EVER
SINCE I
ARRIVED
IN
KYOTO...

...I'VE BEEN
PREPARED
TO FACE MY
FATE.



SHURI!



...BUT
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?



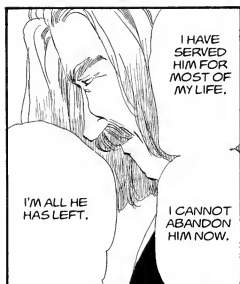
...I'VE
BRACED
MYSELF
FOR THIS.

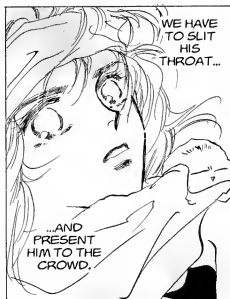
SHURI!

SINCE THE
DAY I WAS
BORN...

...AS YOUR
FLESH AND
BLOOD...







WE HAVE
TO SLIT
HIS
THROAT...

...AND
PRESENT
HIM TO THE
CROWD.



NO...

WE
CAN'T
LET
HIM
GO.



THROUGH
THE
SECRET
PAS-
SAGE.

SIRE.

I
KNOW.

WATCH
YOUR
STEP.



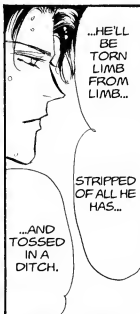
...TO BRING A
BRILLIANT
CLOSE TO
HIS LIFE.

AND
HERE I
TRIED...



HE
WOULD'VE
EARNED A
PLACE IN
HISTORY...

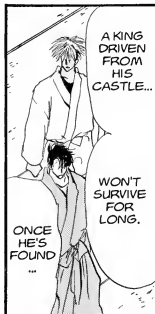
...IF HE'D
AT LEAST
BEEN
CRUCIFIED.



...HE'LL
BE
TORN
LIMB
FROM
LIMB...

STRIPPED
OF ALL HE
HAS...

...AND
TOSSED
IN A
DITCH.



A KING
DRIVEN
FROM
HIS
CASTLE...

WON'T
SURVIVE
FOR
LONG.

ONCE
HE'S
FOUND
...

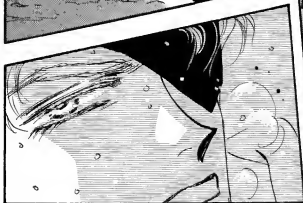








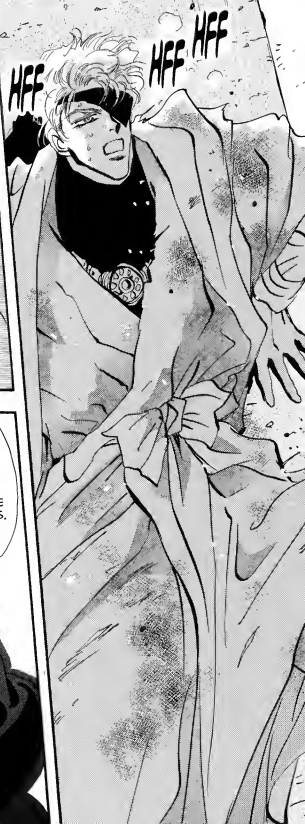
WELL, AREN'T
YOU IN SORRY
SHAPE?

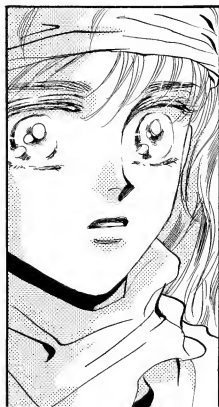


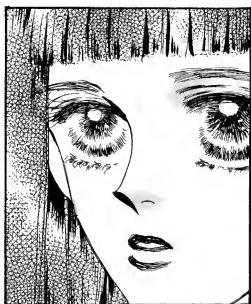
THERE
YOU
ARE...THE
BIG BOSS.

KRII

HFF HFF HFF











SHE
WAS
THE
ONE...
WASN'T
SHE?



WHAT?

NAKIJIN, I
THINK I
FIGURED
IT OUT.

SAY.



...ARE
RISKING
THEIR
LIVES TO
SAVE US!

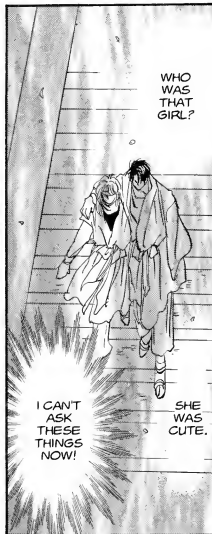
...AND ASAGI...

AGEHA...



I CAN'T GO
BACK TO
BEING
SARASA
NOW!

WELL,
NOT
NOW!



I CAN'T
ASK
THESE
THINGS
NOW!

WHO
WAS
THAT
GIRL?

SHE
WAS
CUTE.



SHURI, I'M
BURNING
UP!



GIN-
KO...

ARE YOU
GOING TO
ABANDON
ME, TOO?



DID
YOU
KILL
HIIRAGI
?

YOU'RE
SUCH
GOOD
FRIENDS.

IT
TOOK
BOTH
YOU
AND
SHURI.



GINKO?



RANMARU
AND
UMEWAKA
AND
KIKUNE...

...THEY'RE
ALL
GONE.



GINKO?



IF
YOU'D
HAD
THE
DESIRE
...

...I
WOULD'VE
MADE IT
HAPPEN!

TO BE
QUEEN, OR
ANYTHING
ELSE...



I
WOULD'VE
DONE
ANY-
THING.

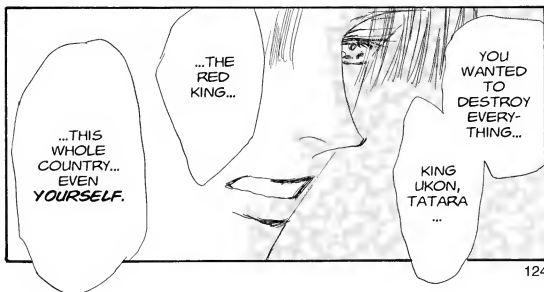


YOU
ABAN-
DONED
ME
FIRST.



...ONLY WANTED
DESTRUCTION.

BUT
YOU...



...THE
RED
KING...

...THIS
WHOLE
COUNTRY...
EVEN
YOURSELF.

YOU
WANTED
TO
DESTROY
EVERY-
THING...

KING
UKON,
TATARA
...





DON'T
YOU CALL
ME BY MY
NAME.

YOU
DIRTY
LITTLE
BAS-
TARD.



GINKO?



SO YOU'RE
GOING TO
KILL ME?

I'M NOT
SURE
YOU'RE
WORTHY.

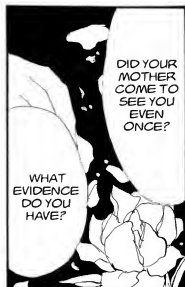


YOU
LOVED
HIM.



...BELIEVE
YOU WERE
THE BLUE
KING?

DID YOU
HONESTLY
...



DID YOUR
MOTHER
COME TO
SEE YOU
EVEN
ONCE?

WHAT
EVIDENCE
DO YOU
HAVE?



A CHEAP,
PALE
**AQUA-
MARINE.**

YES.

IT'S A
SHADE...

...OF
BLUE.

SAY.

DO YOU
KNOW
WHAT
"ASAGI"
MEANS?

A WEAK,
DILUTED BLUE
THAT DOESN'T
COMPARE TO
INDIGO.

THE
LINING
FOR
RUSTIC
CLOTHING.

THE
PRISONER'S
UNIFORM.

WHY
WOULD
THE
REAL
BLUE
KING
RECEIVE
SUCH A
NAME?









Tiny Tam-Tam Time ④

I got one of these step machines (by mail order).
 〆〆 〆〆



This is how I catch up to my quota on my pedometer. I have to walk about 20 minutes on this, but my legs are exhausted after five. I'm so out of shape! 〆

TANU

SARASA'S JOURNEY

SASAYAMA BATTLEFIELD

KAMEOKA CASTLE

KYOTO

ROYAL CASTLE

Tatara & Shuri

Asagi

Kikune & Ichimatsu

Ageha



GIN-
KO...



YOU HAD
NO IDEA
YOU
WERE
BEING
USED.



YOU
BELIEVED
ME WHEN I
SAID YOU
WERE THE
REAL BLUE
KING.



WHAT
A
FOOL.



GINKO...



YOU
LOOKED
PRETTY...



I TOOK
YOU IN,
LIKE THE
FOUR
VIRTUES.



SO...



YOU
WERE
FOUND
...



SWATHED
IN RAGS.



GINKO!



NOBODY'S
WORKING FOR
THE ROYAL
FAMILY
ANYMORE!

WHEN ARE
YOU GOING TO
STOP POSING
AS A CIVIL
SERVANT?

IT'S
OVER!

YOU'RE
BLIND TO
HISTORY'S
PATH!



BOUND
BY THE
GHOSTS
OF YOUR
PAST?

POOR
GUY.



YOU
ANARCHISTS
HAVE NO
RIGHT TO
CRITICIZE
ME!



TO
BACK
DOWN
NOW...

...MY
MOTHER
AND
FATHER
BORE.

AND
PAIN...

...WOULD
BE TO
DISAVOW
THE
LIFETIME
OF HARD-
SHIP...



WHETHER
I CAN SEE
OR NOT...

...I
CANNOT
YIELD FOR
ONE
REASON.



A SIDE
BECOMES
"RIGHT" ONLY
AFTER
VICTORY!

YOU MAY BE
WINNING, BUT
NOT BECAUSE
YOU'RE IN THE
RIGHT!

MAKE NO
MISTAKE!



YOU PEOPLE
ARE
TERRORISTS!

OUTLAWS
WHO THREW
THE WORLD
INTO CHAOS!



THE
WINNERS
WRITE
THE
HISTO-
RIES!

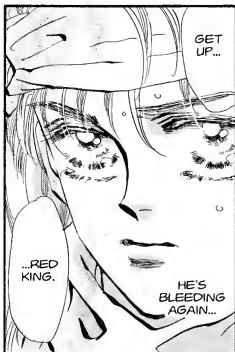
BUT
MAKE NO
MISTAKE!



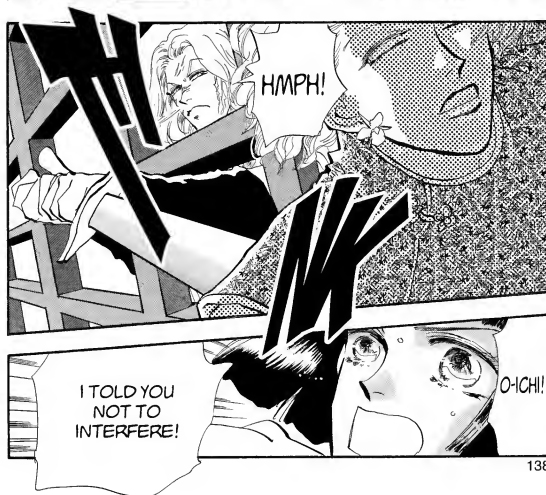
HACHIYA!

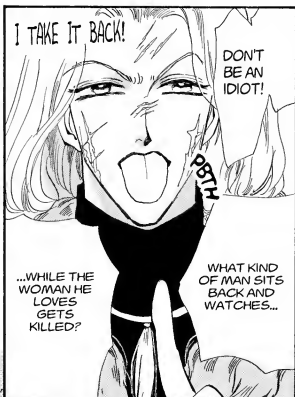


TATARA...









I TAKE IT BACK!

DON'T
BE AN
IDIOT!

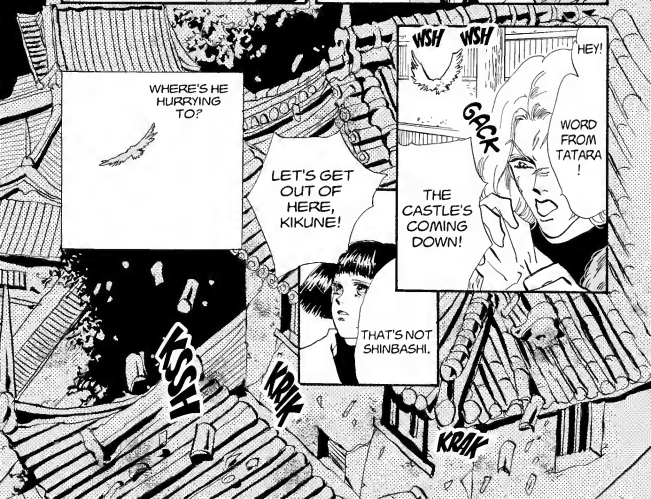
WHAT KIND
OF MAN SITS
BACK AND
WATCHES...

...WHILE THE
WOMAN HE
LOVES
GETS
KILLED?



WSH

OPEN
UP!



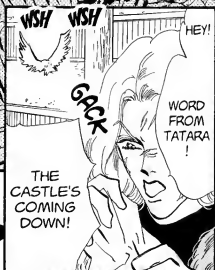
WHERE'S HE
HURRYING
TO?



LET'S GET
OUT OF
HERE,
KIKUNE!



THAT'S NOT
SHINBASHI.



WSH WSH

HEY!

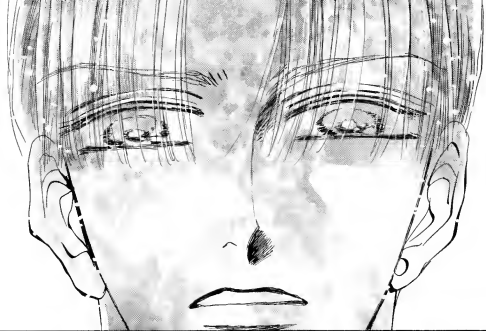
WORD
FROM
TATARA
!

THE
CASTLE'S
COMING
DOWN!

KASH

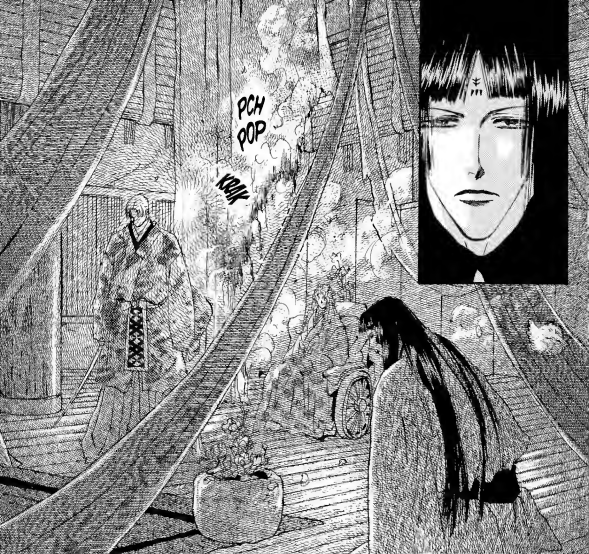
KRAK

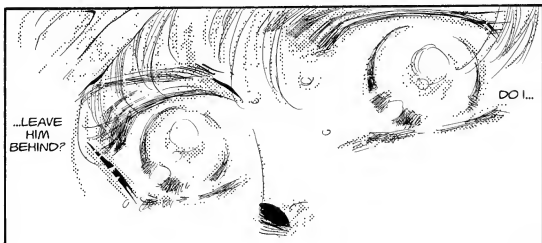
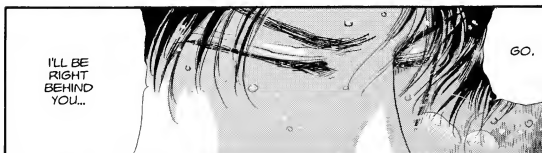
KRAK

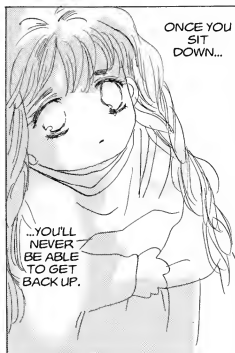














DO I WANT
HIM TO
DIE?

EVEN A
LITTLE?



DO I
STILL
WISH
IT?

EVEN A
LITTLE?



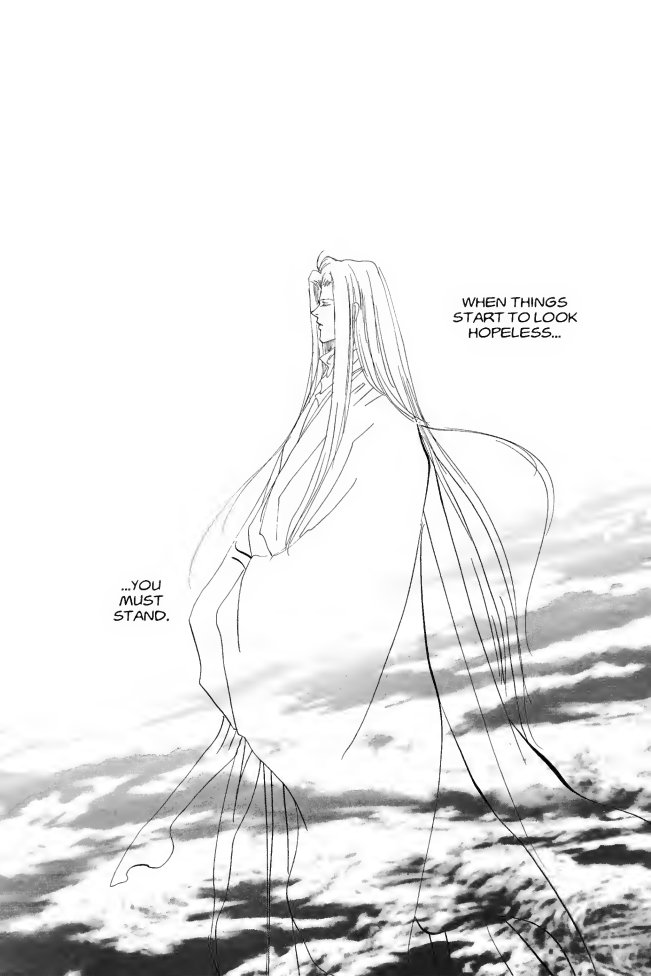
GO...

I ONCE
WISHED
FOR...

IT'S
COMING
DOWN.

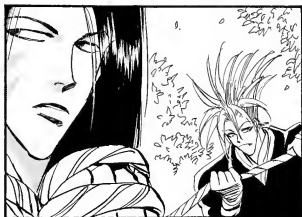
...THE RED
KING'S
DEATH.





WHEN THINGS
START TO LOOK
HOPELESS...

...YOU
MUST
STAND.



THE FINAL BATTLE
YOU FIGHT...

...IS WITH
YOURSELF.

BASARA 24: END



*THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ANYTHING GOES



TAM-TAM TIME

TAMU.

HOW IS EVERYONE?

Yoo-hoo!

The main story of BASARA will end in the next volume, Volume 25. But there will be more bonus side stories. Stick with me until the end!

The side stories are running right now in *Betsu-Comi*.



The BASARA anime is out on video and laserdisc.

Check it out! The novel has gotten good reviews, too!

TAKE A LOOK AT THE ARTBOOK EARTH! I DO ONE-SHOTS ONCE IN A WHILE IN *BETSU-COMI*, SO LOOK FOR ME!



There was some extra space in this volume, so I included a bunch of stuff.

Like illustrations I did for the *Betsu-Comi* homepage...

AND...

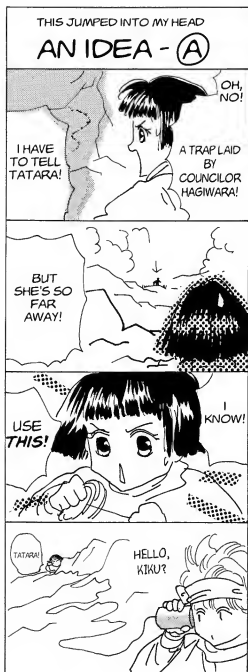
Some comic strips I did for BASARAN, which I mentioned in Volume 23.

Some people may have seen these already (I'm sorry), but I wanted to include all the BASARA stuff I have. Enjoy!♡

You can also see my work here:

http://flowers.shogakukan.co.jp/artists/art_f.html

Check it out!♡



MARCH

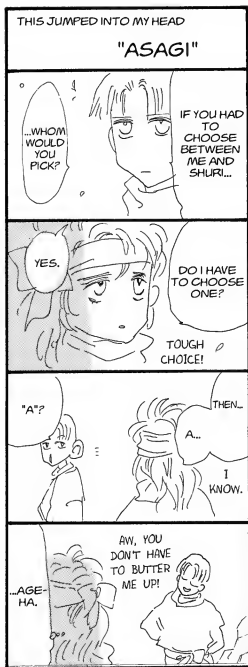
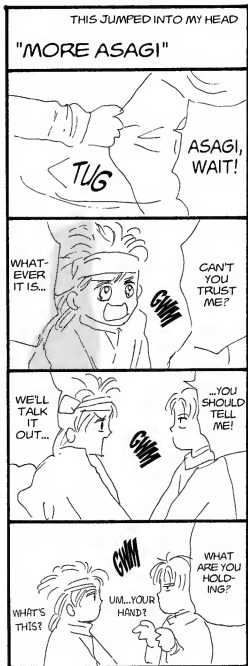


"ON A HAPPY DAY WHEN I RUN INTO SOMEONE I
DIDN'T EXPECT, I FEEL LIKE BUYING AN ARMFUL
OF YELLOW FLOWERS."

I wrote this for my March comment page on the *Betsu-Comi* website. The picture is in yellow. It's in the artbook "Earth," so if you want to see it in color, look for it there! ♥

On the day I wrote this, I crossed paths with someone I admire, and in a moment of happy impulse, I bought some flowers...

TAMU.



APRIL



99%の人は会えないというだけで驚いたりして。
 幸せなことがたくさんあっても
 99%の人は会えないというだけで驚いたりして。

"IT SURPRISES ME THAT EVEN WHEN I SHOULD BE HAPPY, NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HIM MAKES ME 99% DEPRESSED."

I wrote this for my April comment on the *Betsu-Comi* website. The illustration is also in the artbook *Earth*. When I wrote this, I wasn't able to see someone I wanted to see, and my disappointment was greater than I expected...

TSUKI.

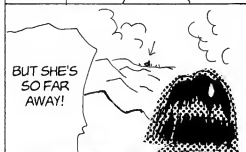
THIS JUMPED INTO MY HEAD

BATTLE ②



THIS JUMPED INTO MY HEAD

AN IDEA (B)



I SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED THIS IDEA.

*THERE ARE COMIC STRIPS LIKE THIS IN THE ARTBOOK, TOO. CHECK IT OUT!



MAY/JUNE



"YESTERDAY, I THOUGHT I WAS
IN LOVE.
TODAY, I THINK I WAS IMAGINING IT.

WHAT WILL I FEEL
TOMORROW?

I wrote this for the May/June comment on the *Betsu-Comi* website.
Why were March and April separate, but May and June combined?
Because I didn't have time to do one each month. Pathetic! ☹
It's also in the artbook *Earth*. ♡ This just happened to be the way I felt
at the time... Ho ho. ☹

TANU

In pajamas.



To my dear readers!

Tam-Tam Time

HELLO! A LOT OF STUFF HAPPENED IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH, SO I'LL REPORT IT ALL HERE! ♡

I HEAR TO SEE THE LARGEST HIT, SHI JUMP AT THE MINGAO OLYMPICS IN FEBRUARY!

More layers than a onion!

You had to brush away the snow where you worked to sit.

It was so cold!



SPINSTORM

I took a night train, but it kept stopping and I had to change trains, so it was quite an ordeal. But it was fun! Happily, I got to see Japan win two medals. It might be easier to follow on TV since they explain things for you. But being there in person was great. It's a sports competition, not a scripted story. And we did "the wave".



I MET MISS KANAKO NAKAYAMA!

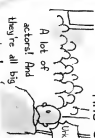
She's a famous musician, but she was very nice and relaxed. We chatted a lot. She's also a gamer, and she loves to read. And she's a morning person. She's the epitome of cool. I was inspired to create a story about a female band...would you want to read it?

"Where the Plumeria Blooms"



THE ANIME VOICE RECORDING HAS STARTED.

I realized even that BISHARA has a large cast that should've been obvious. After I hear the actors' passionate performances, I want to see all the other scenes with their voices. What stars!



I WENT TO THE KYOTO MANGA SEMINAR.

Those young people keep me on my toes. And...

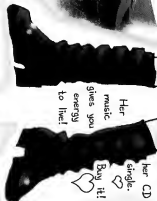
OW THE WAY BACK.

I ran into the voice actor quartet WeB on the bullet train!



Her music gives you energy to live! Buy it!

I drew the art for the back of her CD single. ♡



See you later! ♡

I drew this Tam-Tam Time for the Betsu-Comi website! ♡



There's some fun manga in the next pages. I put this in BASARAN, which I self-published (so you can't order it). The main story is so dark and depressing, so try this for a change of pace! ☺ It was fun working on it. So this was what BASARA was really about! (It was?) See you in the next volume! Take care and good luck!





I'm here at the
forbidden men's
dorm at Basara
Private Academy...

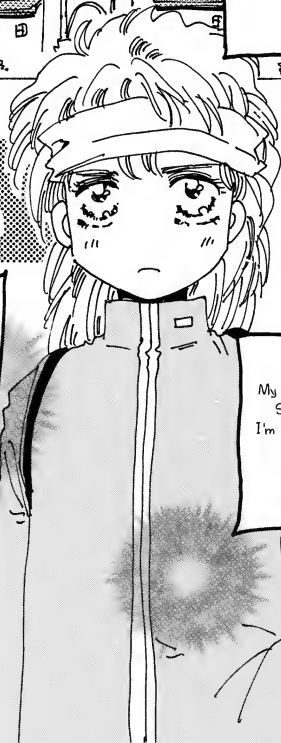
TAM-TAM TIME
EXTRA

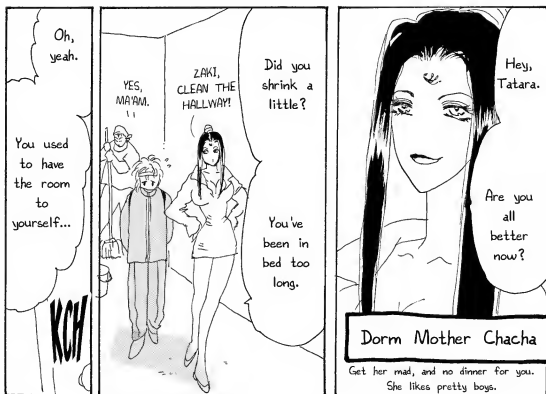
An Evening at Basara Academy

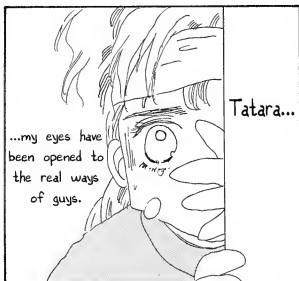
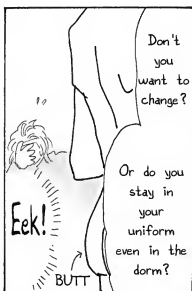
I decided to sneak
in as my twin
brother Tataru...

...to find the
man who hurt
him.

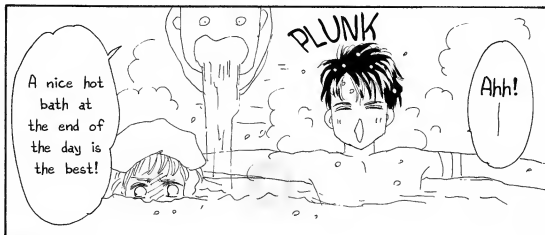
My name is
Sarasa.
I'm 16 years
old.

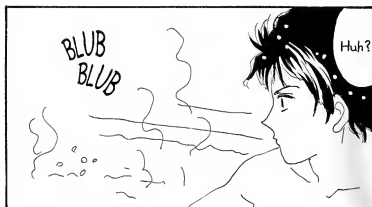
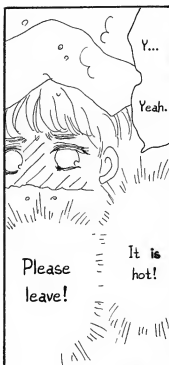














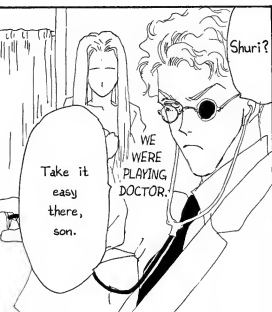
Dr. Nagi!

Dr. Ageha!

TMTMTM / ARRGH!

NURSE

SLAM



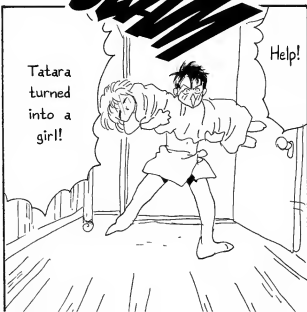
Shuri?

Take it
easy
there,
son.

WE
WERE
PLAYING
DOCTOR.

Tatara
turned
into a
girl!

Help!





There's
no doubt.

She's a
bona fide
girl.



Oh, she
woke up.



Yeah...

In the
bath?

With
a
girl?



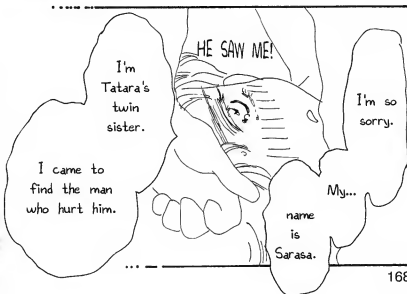
HUH?
/

But she
was a guy
just a
minute ago!

We
were in
the
bath...



What?



I'm
Tatara's
twin
sister.

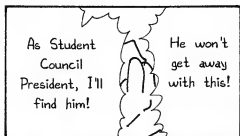
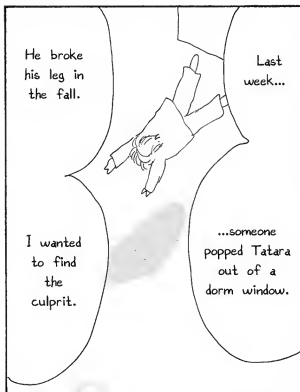
I came to
find the man
who hurt him.

HE SAW ME!

I'm so
sorry.

My...

name
is
Sarasa.





Say
what?

...who
could've
done it.

Oh,
yeah.

I have
an idea...



That's not
my style.

I HATE
IT.
I HATE
HOW
YOU
ALWAYS
ASSUME.

or use
poison.

I would plunge
a knife deep
into his
back...



...but
they
hate
each
other.

OH.

They're
half-
brothers
...



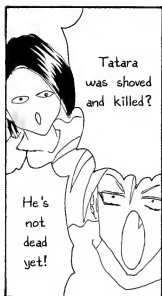
You pushed
Tatara out
the window!

YOU
BASTARD!



I'm the
principal's
secret love child.
What do you
want?

I don't want
you anywhere
near me, you
boor.





The owner must be the culprit!

Look!

These boxer shorts were found by Tatara's side!



Tatara?

Tatara!

That's my underwear.

KCH

Wait a minute, Sarasa.

No.

You said
someone
popped you
out the
window!

WEAK
AGAINST
BROTHER. 0.0

What do
you think
you're
doing?

B-but
you
were...

THIS
IS A
BOYS'!
DORM!

...was
what I
said.

I FELL
TRYING
TO PICK
IT UP.

That...

I was hanging
my laundry out
to dry and
dropped it.

Don't get
mad at
her.

Sarasa
meant
well.

TK...

WAAH

Why...

I'm
sorry!

...are
you
such a
scatter-
brain?

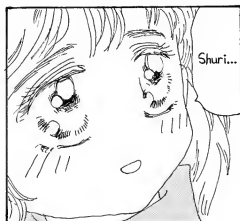
Then
there's no
culprit?

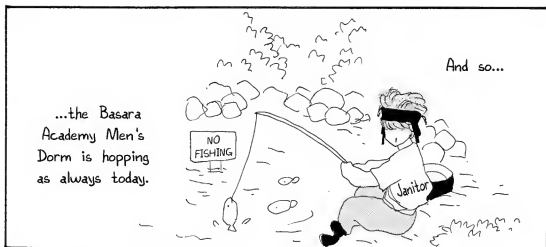
GIVE
THAT
BACK.

No.

HOW DID SHE
GET THAT
WRONG?

SHOCK





HELLO!



WELCOME!

This was on my own website. I stopped updating it...I said my goodbyes earlier, but I'd forgotten that I still had this page left. 8

See you later!♡

am.

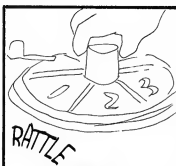
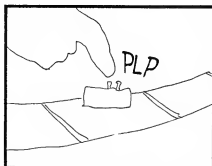
If They Played Games

TATU.

"What kinds of games would the characters like?"

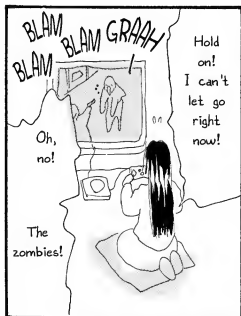
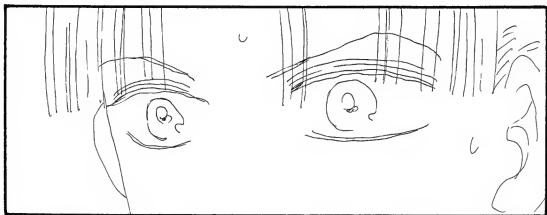
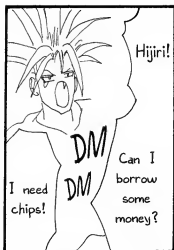
Let's check it out, shall we?

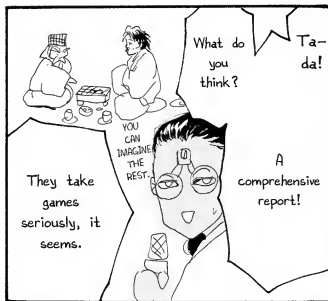
I've received a request that will tax my investigative reporting skills.
Well, not really...











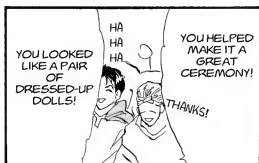
I'D PLAY CONCENTRATION!

If you have any other ideas for hypothetical situations...

...send me a letter!



If They Played Games: THE END





SHE MUST
BE WORTHY
OF BEING
QUEEN!

'T WAS A
DAY IN
THE
DISTANT
PAST...



WHY?
I'LL
DRINK
TO
THAT!
A
HAPPY
DAY!

BUT I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND
HER AND MAKE HER
YOURS.

I LOOK
FORWARD
TO
MEETING
HER.



THAT'S
MORE
THAN ONE
REQUIRE-
MENT.

SO SHE'D HAVE TO BE
SMART, BEAUTIFUL
AND STRONG-
MINDED, AND SHE
SHOULD LOVE
HORSES AND SHIPS.



A
WIFE
ISN'T
A
BUDDY.

AND
THEN
...

WE'LL TRAVEL
THE WORLD!



THE END